

REMARKS

1. Applicants respond to the Office Action after confirming telephonically with the Examiner on March 24, 2004 that there was a 30-day response period. The Office Action papers received indicated no response deadline.

2. Applicants have canceled without prejudice claims 31-66 in this response, electing the Group I claims. Dependent claim 23 has been amended to correct an inadvertent incorrect dependency. New dependent claims 67-90 have been added to the application. It is submitted the claims are supported by the disclosure in the application as filed, including the original claims, and are now in condition for examination. An early indication of allowability is respectfully requested.

3. The specification has been amended on page 11, at line 6 to correct a redundancy in wording of "thermal heat" to read "thermal energy" and at lines 20-21 and 24-25 to supply pending patent application serial numbers. No new matter has been presented with this amendatory language.

4. In summary, claims 1-30 and 61-90 are presented for examination. Claims 31-66 have been canceled without prejudice. Minor corrections have been made to the specification to promote readability and to provide current patent application serial numbers unavailable at the time of filing of this application.

Pursuant to currently recommended Patent Office practice, the Examiner is expressly authorized to call the Applicant's attorney collect at Valencia, California, if in his judgment disposition of this application could be expedited or if he considers the application not ready for examination or final disposition by other than allowance.

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